

PTO/SB/66 (07-05)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378(c))

Docket Number (Optional)

RECEIVED

AUG 17 2005

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Mail to: Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Fax: (571) 273-8300

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (571) 272-3282.

Patent No. 6,170,281 Application Number 09/261,310
Issue Date JAN. 09, 2001 Filing Date MARCH 2, 1999

CAUTION: Maintenance fee (and surcharge, if any) payment must correctly identify: (1) the patent number (or reissue patent number, if a reissue) and (2) the application number of the actual U.S. application (or reissue application) leading to issuance of that patent to ensure the fee(s) is/are associated with the correct patent. 37 CFR 1.366(c) and (d).

Also complete the following information, if applicable

The above - identified patent:

☐ is a reissue of original Patent No. _____, original issue date _____;
original application number _____;
original filing date _____.

N/A

☐ resulted from the entry into the U.S. under 35 U.S.C. 371 of international application _____ filed on _____.

08/24/2005 AKELLEY 00000021 6170281

01 FC:1558

1640.00 OP

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

EXPRESS MAIL
ED 82969302745

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

08-12-2005

Karl Vernon Lee Barnett

Signature

KARL VERNON LEE BARNETT

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

Adjustment date: 08/24/2005 AKELLEY
03/15/2005 DALLEN 00000008 6170281
02 FC:1557 -700.00 OP
Adjustment date: 08/24/2005 AKELLEY
08/16/2005 BESHAM 00000026 6170281
01 FC:1599 -940.00 OP

(Page 1 of 3)

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.378(c). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2

08/16/2005 TEE SHAH 00000006 6170281

01 FC:1599

940.00 OP

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1. SMALL ENTITY

☒ Patentee claims, or has previously claimed, small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

2. LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS

☐ Patentee is no longer entitled to small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g).

3. MAINTENANCE FEE (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g))

The appropriate maintenance fee must be submitted with this petition, unless it was paid earlier.

NOT Small Entity			Small Entity		
Amount	Fee	(Code)	Amount	Fee	(Code)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	3 1/2 yr fee	(1551)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$ <u>450.00</u>	3 1/2 yr fee	(2551)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 1/2 yr fee	(1552)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 1/2 yr fee	(2552)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 1/2 yr fee	(1553)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 1/2 yr fee	(2553)

MAINTENANCE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$ _____

4. SURCHARGE

The surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) of \$ 1640.00 (Fee Code 1558) must be paid as a condition of accepting unintentionally delayed payment of the maintenance fee.SURCHARGE BEING SUBMITTED \$ 940.00
PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED 700.00
1640.00

5. MANNER OF PAYMENT

☒ Enclosed is a check for the sum of \$ 940.00☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ the sum of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached.☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

6. AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE ANY FEE DEFICIENCY

☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any maintenance fee, surcharge or petition deficiency to Deposit Account No. _____. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached.

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7. OVERPAYMENT

As to any overpayment made please

- ☐ Credit to Deposit Account No. _____
- OR
- ☒ Send refund check.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

8. STATEMENT

The delay in payment of the maintenance fee to this patent was unintentional.

9. PETITIONER(S) REQUEST THAT THE DELAYED PAYMENT OF THE MAINTENANCE FEE BE ACCEPTED AND THE PATENT REINSTATED.

Karl Vernon Lee Barnett 08-12-05
Signature(s) of Petitioner(s) Date

KARL VERNON LEE BARNETT _____
Typed or printed name(s) Registration Number, if applicable

1-828-255-8314 (HOME) / 1-828-279-3281 (CELL)
Telephone Number

1-828-253-4107 (WORK)

11 Ascension Drive, Apt. E
Address

Asheville, N.C. 28806
Address

37 CFR 1.378(d) states: "Any petition under this section must be signed by an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office, or by the patentee, the assignee, or other party in interest."

ENCLOSURES:

- ☒ Maintenance Fee payment **PREVIOUSLY CHECK CASHED BY PTO!**
- ☒ Surcharge under 37 CFR 1.201(i)(2) (fee for filing the maintenance fee petition) **940.00 IN CHECK**
- ☒ **700.00 PREVIOUSLY FILED CASHED BY PTO**
- ☒ **TOTAL SURCHARGE (IF NECESSARY) 1640.00**



Privacy Act Statement

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The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



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JUL 11 2005

Karl Vernon Lee Barnett
11 Ascension Drive
Apt. K
Asheville, NC 28806

In re Patent of
Barnett
Patent No. 6,170,281
Issue Date: January 9, 2001
Application No. 09/261,310
Filing Date: March 2, 1999

Letter

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Request for Information

This letter is in response to the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(b) filed on March 6, 2005, requesting the acceptance of the delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

Prior to rendering a decision on the petition, the Office wishes to ensure it is able to fully consider the facts and circumstances surrounding the expiration of the patent. Petitioner fails to discuss:

- (1) Would the 3.5 year fee have been timely paid if a reissue application had not been filed?
- (2) Would the 3.5 year fee have been timely paid if the original patent had not been "surrendered"?

Petitioner should fully address the questions listed above.

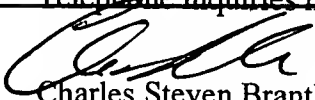
Petitioner should submit the requested information within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this letter. Extensions of time may not be obtained. No additional fee is due for a response to the instant request for information. The response to this Requirement for Information should include a cover letter entitled "Response to Request for Information." The failure to file a reply to the instant Request for Information will be interpreted as a desire to no longer pursue reinstatement of the patent and the Office will give no further consideration to the matter.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail: Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By facsimile: (571) 273-8300
Attn: Office of Petitions

Telephone inquiries may be directed to Petitions Attorney Steven Brantley at (571) 272-3203.


Charles Steven Brantley
Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions